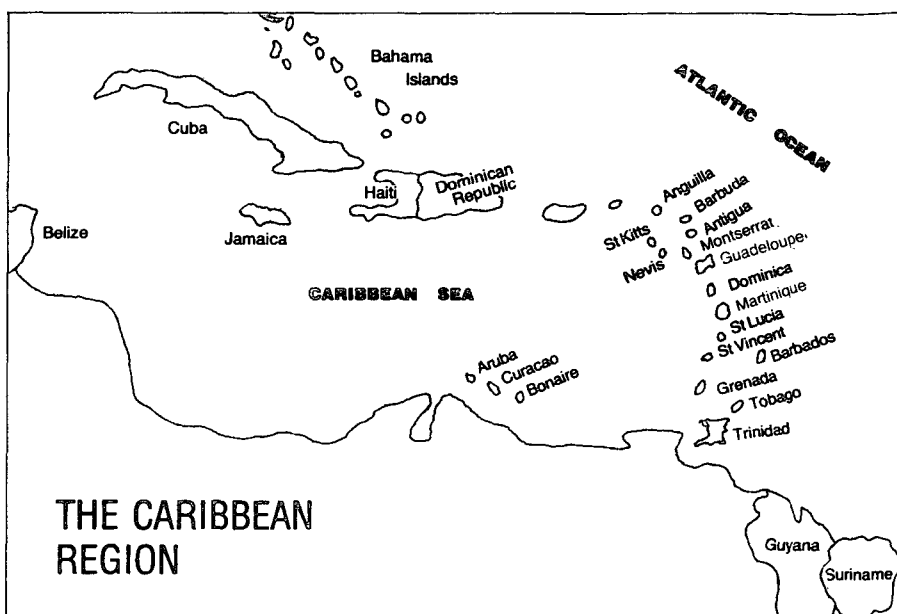


**C**ARIBBEAN  
**D**EVELOPMENT  
 AND  
**C**O-OPERATION  
**C**OMMITTEE



**THE CARIBBEAN  
 REGION**

GENERAL

E/CEPAL/CDCC/86

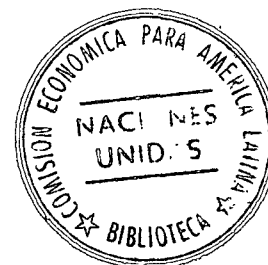
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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA  
 Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean

CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE

Sixth Session  
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ECLA RESOLUTIONS  
 WITH IMPLICATIONS  
 FOR CDCC



**UNITED NATIONS**

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA Office for the Caribbean



ECLA RESOLUTIONS WITH  
IMPLICATIONS FOR CDCC

The Resolution 419 (PLEN.14) "Rationalization of the Institutional Structure and the Pattern of Meetings of the CEPAL System", emerged from the consciousness... "that the increasing scope and variety of tasks entrusted to the CEPAL System make it necessary to rationalize still further its institutional machinery and procedures, including its pattern of meetings taking particular account of the relevant provisions of General Assembly Resolution 32/197 and of the resolutions and decisions of the Commission itself and of its subsidiary bodies".

In its operative part is the decision to bring the pattern of conferences and meetings of the Commission into line with the two-year budget programming cycle introduced by the General Assembly. Accordingly, at the nineteenth session the Commission adopted a calendar of conferences in which the timing of the full sessions will be in even years, the next to be convened in 1984.

Among the decisions in the operative part of the resolution, are two where specific mention is made of the CDCC;

"(i) It is recommended that at their next session, the permanent sub-regional subordinate bodies of the Commission, that is to say, the Central American Economic Co-operation Committee and the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee should consider the best means of adapting their general institutional functioning - including the adjustment of their annual sub-regional meetings - to the biennial pattern established for the United Nations by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;"

"(1) As a general rule, no more than five substantive regional conferences or meetings should be held each year, including the above-mentioned statutory

sessions of the Commission, the statutory meetings of the Committee of the Whole and of CEGAN, and extraordinary preparatory meetings for world conferences or international years, the costs of which like the costs of the Statutory Sessions of the Central American Co-operation Committee and the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee, must be provided for in CEPAL's regular budget and approved by the General Assembly;"

Concerning the sub-paragraphs in the resolution quoted above, it would be recalled that the principle of preparing the financial implications of CDCC decisions on biennial basis was instituted at the fifth session of the Committee. The importance of this was clearly depicted in the Joint Inspection Unit report on the CEPAL sub-regional Offices. There it was pointed out that the timetable for the submission, examination and completion of the proposed programme budget for 1982-83 was:

- Budget instructions issued - 19 August 1980
- Submissions from all units located away from UN Headquarters received by Budget Division and, in the economic and social sectors, by the Programme Planning and Co-ordination Office (PPCO) - 15 November 1980
- Review of submissions by Budget Division and PPCO and completion of budget text - 15 March 1981
- Budget text available to CPC and ACABQ - 30 April 1981
- CPC and ACABQ report to the General Assembly on the budget - May to July 1981
- Consideration, revision and approval by the General Assembly - September to December 1981

The JIU commented that given that timetable the most fruitful period for Ministers to discuss the programme proposals would be before October of even-numbered years, 14 months before beginning of the budget period. Also, that it

is more difficult after that date for Ministers to influence what goes forward although they can later decide to submit amendments to the General Assembly either jointly or individually.

Taking account of the budget timetable, and also the workload on the Secretariat in the early months of each year deriving from preparation of the Annual Economic Survey, the Committee is requested to consider the timing of CDCC sessions with a view that they should be timed to take place in October,<sup>1/</sup>

The functions and Rules of Procedure of the CDCC (Chapter III, Section 11) stipulate "the regular sessions of the Committee shall be held once a year".

## II

The Resolution 440 (XIX) "Technical and Economic Co-operation between the countries of the Caribbean Area and the other countries of the Region" was stimulated by the considerations that fuller use has to be made of the economic potential of the integration processes and the forms of co-operation being worked out by the CDCC. In this context a need was seen to forge closer technical and economic co-operation links with the rest of Latin America,

In addition to urging the intensification of efforts to identify specific possibilities of technical and economic co-operation, it also requests the Executive Secretary in collaboration with the Caribbean institutions charged with promoting co-operation and integration, to undertake studies and operational activities to promote co-operation between the Caribbean and the rest of Latin America. The three elements identified were; inter-governmental co-

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<sup>1/</sup> The timing of past sessions were;

- First Session, Havana, 31 October - 4 November 1975
- Second Session, Santo Domingo, 16-22 March 1977
- Third Session, Belize City, 12-18 April 1978
- Fourth Session, Paramaribo, 21-27 March 1979
- Fifth Session, Kingston, 4-10 June 1980

operation (e.g, in matters such as trade complementation), co-operation between the integration secretariats for information exchanges, and the preparation of joint mutual co-operation projects.

In response to this resolution, ECLA has developed in collaboration with the CARICOM Secretariat, the outline for a study of Caribbean/Latin American relations. The basic objectives of this study will be:

- (a) to provide the basis on which the subject of Caribbean/Latin American relations will guide discussion and future action;
- (b) to trace the historical background with a view to identifying those social, historical and cultural factors of relevance to a better mutual understanding such as:
  - (i) cultural, including language, religion, institutional differences and approaches;
  - (ii) ethnic origins and their significance for extra-regional links.
- (c) to identify those economic factors capable of stimulating greater economic activity between both groups, recognizing differences in territorial size, levels of development and resource endowments;
- (d) to analyse the geo-political situation bearing in mind the special features of island developing States and the existence of territorial disputes;
- (e) to study the history and growth of the relationships between the two sub-groups as it has evolved since the achievement of independence by CARICOM States, identifying difficulties which have arisen in both bilateral and multi-lateral relations;

- (f) to study the existing pattern of extra-regional relations (political, economic, cultural) of the two sub-groups, including importantly, the role of Latin American and/or Caribbean States in the UN system and in such inter-regional organizations as the Non-Aligned Movement, the Group of 77, the ACP Group and the Commonwealth, and the impact of such extra-regional relations on the relations between the two groups;
- (g) to study the workings of regional organizations such as ECLA, OAS, SELA, GEPLACEA, OLADE in which both groups participate;
- (h) to recommend new strategies and formats for the elimination of identified difficulties and for the further development and management of Caribbean relations with Latin America at both bilateral and multilateral levels;
- (i) to identify areas of complementarity and mutual interest towards the formulation of projects which can be undertaken by Caribbean and Latin American States within the framework of ECLA and specifically the CDCC and other regional organizations such as SELA and the OAS.

Arrangements are now being made to recruit consultant services for carrying out this study.

